

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 131372  
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INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00  
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APPROVED BY EUR/SE:RCEWING  
EUR/P:FSEIDNER  
PA/PRS:KBROWN

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O R 232221Z MAY 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS STATE 131372

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PEPR, CY, TU

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT COMMENTS ON DENKTASH STATEMENT OF MAY  
22

REF: USUN 2069

1. FOLLOWING PREPARED STATEMENT WAS READ OUT BY DEPARTMENT  
PRESS SPOKESMAN AT NOON BRIEFING MAY 23: BEGIN TEXT:

I WANT TO DRAW YOUR ATTENTION TO THE STATEMENT ISSUED BY  
TURKISH CYPRIOT LEADER DENKTASH IN NEW YORK YESTERDAY ON  
THE SUBJECT OF RESUMING THE CYPRUS INTERCOMMUNAL NEGOTIA-  
TIONS. WE FIND THIS TO BE A POSITIVE AND ENCOURAGING  
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PAGE 02 STATE 131372

STATEMENT, WHICH CLARIFIES AND TO SOME EXTENT REFORMULATES  
THE TURKISH CYPRIOT POSITION. SOME OF THE SALIENT POINTS  
OF THE STATEMENT ARE AS FOLLOWS:

FIRST, DENKTASH REAFFIRMS TURKISH CYPRIOT READINESS TO  
ENTER INTO "SUSTAINED, INTENSIVE GOOD-FAITH NEGOTIATIONS"  
WITH THE GREEK CYPRIOTS TO RESOLVE THE OUTSTANDING CON-

STITUTIONAL AND TERRITORIAL ISSUES. HE NOTES THAT HE HAS MADE A COMMITMENT TO SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM TO ENGAGE IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS "WITH AN OPEN MIND AND IN A SPIRIT OF CONCILIATION AND FLEXIBILITY."

SECOND, WITH RESPECT TO THE TERRITORIAL ISSUE DENKTASH DECLARES THAT THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS ARE PREPARED TO CONSIDER "SIGNIFICANT GEOGRAPHICAL RE-ADJUSTMENTS" WHICH WOULD ENABLE "A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF GREEK CYPRIOTS TO RESETTLE."

THIRD, DENKTASH INDICATES THAT THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS ARE READY TO MAKE IMPORTANT CONCESSIONS REGARDING THE CITY OF VAROSHA (NEW FAMAGUSTA). SOME 30,000 TO 35,000 OF THE FORMER GREEK CYPRIOT INHABITANTS OF THIS CITY WILL BE ABLE TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMES AND PROPERTIES EVEN BEFORE A SETTLEMENT IS REACHED--IN FACT WHILE NEGOTIATIONS ARE IN PROGRESS. DENKTASH HAS STRESSED THAT THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS ARE FULLY PREPARED TO DISCUSS ALTERNATIVE FORMULAE FOR THE FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS OF VAROSHA. ASSUMING NEGOTIATIONS COMMENCE PROMPTLY, THIS MEANS THAT THOUSANDS OF GREEK CYPRIOTS WOULD BEGIN RETURNING TO THEIR HOMES WITHIN MONTHS.

FOURTH, DENKTASH STATES THAT THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS ARE EAGER TO DISCUSS WITH THE GREEK CYPRIOTS OTHER CONCRETE

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 131372

STEPS FOR HEALING THE WOUNDS OF THE PAST. HE HAS MENTIONED THE POSSIBILITY OF REOPENING NICOSIA AIRPORT TO THE CIVILIAN TRAFFIC OF BOTH SIDES, AND OF ENGAGING IN JOINT ECONOMIC PROJECTS.

WE HOPE IT WILL BE POSSIBLE IN THE COMING WEEKS TO BUILD UPON THESE IDEAS SO AS TO MOVE TOWARDS A PROMPT RESOLUTION OF THE CYPRUS PROBLEM.

THE TURKISH AMBASSADOR HAS INFORMED US THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY FULLY ENDORSES THIS STATEMENT BY MR. DENKTASH.

END TEXT.

2. EXCERPTS FROM EXTENSIVE EXCHANGE BETWEEN SPOKESMAN AND NEWSMEN THAT FOLLOWED WILL BE PROVIDED SEPTEL. CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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